(SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. So far, One TIFAC CORE has been established on Industrial Biotechnology at Karnataka Regional Engineering College, Surathkal.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Mission REACH (Relevance & Excellence in Achieving New Heights in Educational Institutes) has already established a TIFAC CORE on 'Disaster Mitigation' at Indian Institute of Technology-Roorkee. This Centre will cater to issues relating to many parts of India. In addition, there is a provision for all TIFAC-COREs to interact with each other and also to place useful information in an accessible website.

Seismology Research Institute in Gujarat

2205. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a proposal from the Gujarat Government to establish an Institute of Seismology Research;

(b) if so, the status of the proposal; and

(c) by when the proposal is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) to (c) Sir, a proposal has been received from the Government of Gujarat for setting up of a Seismological Research Institute. An Expert Group was constituted to concretize the proposal and work out the details including the estimated cost and possible financing patterns and mechanisms. The Expert Group has submitted its report, and action has been initiated for processing the proposal further.

Technology Vision—2020 projects

2206. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) which are the sectors identified for launching Technology Vision, 2020 demonstration projects by Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council;

(b) whether demonstration projects have been taken up in Karnataka; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) to (c) Technology Information, Forecasting and Asessment Council (TIFAC) has launched Technology Vision 2020 Projects in Mission Mode in the following six identified areas :—

(i) Agiculture and Agro Food Processing

(ii) Road Construction and Transportation Equipment

(iii) Upgradation of Textile Machinery and Processing Industries

(iv) Services and Maintenance of Health Care Equipment/Health Care Services

(v) Upgradation of Science and Engineering Colleges

(vi) Targeted Programmes in Other Important Areas

2. The chosen demonstration projects have also been taken with Institutions/Industries in the State of Karantaka as detailed below:—

(i) Milk Quality & Improvement Project in association with Kolar Milk Union, Kolar to improve the milk quality and yield by establishing community modern dairy farming through introduction of Mechanised Milking Parlour System leading to savings by reducing spillage in collection system.

(ii) Disaster Management & Radio Control Equipment with M/s. Bharat Earth Movers Limited, (BEML), Bangalore

(a) DISASTER MANAGEMENT EQUIPMENT:

The proposed equipment is of paramount importance to demolish the damaged buildings which are hanging precariously at a faster rate so that new buildings are built, with which the people are rehabilitated at the earliest occasion. One basic equipment and four a varieties of attachments are projected in this proposal. The basic equipment with a crawler is contemplated for development. Since the debris will be thrown all around the site the equipment

will have the feature of swinging 3600. The equipment proposed is similar in construction to that of a hydraulic excavator of 30 ton class with special features to withstand the severity of operation and also to meet some of the specific requirements required for development at disaster sites. Jumbo crusher, hydraulic shearer, rock breaker and scrap grapple are the four attachments.

(b) RADIO CONTROL SYSTEM:

Radio Control System provides method of controlling machine without physical connection between the operator and the machine. Design and development of the proposed equipment is basically multi disciplinary in nature in involving mechanical, pneumatic, hydraulic and control engineering systems. The operating system mainly comprises of handheld transmitter and vehicle mounted receiver.

(iii) Estabishment of TIFAC-Centre of Relevance & Excellence on Industrial Biotechnology at Karnataka Regional Engineering College, Surathkal.

(iv) Establishment of Hydrogen Economy Technology Development Program at RVCE-TIFAC Centre at RVCE, Bangalore: Development and implementation of projects aiming at generation, storage and application of hydrogen towards sustainable hydrogen economy.

Indian Science Congress in Lucknow

2207. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 89th Indian Science Congress was inaugurated by the Prime Minister on 3rd January, 2002 in Lucknow;

(b) if so, what was the main purpose of this conference;

(c) whether the science policy was not announced in the conference; and

(d) if not, so, by when the same is likely to be announced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.